

Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division

Smelt Dipping Opportunities Streams and Great Lakes Shoreline

In the following areas, smelt are concentrated in the spring

REMINDER: If you want to fish from private land, you must first obtain permission from the land owner.

UPPER PENINSULA AREAS

- Alger County Bay Furnace Creek, Anna River & Rock River (Excellent Ice Fishery)
- O Baraga County Keweenaw Bay of Lake Superior (Excellent Ice Fishery)
- O Chippewa County Albany Creek, Galloway Creek, Roxbury Creek
- O Delta County Days River, Escanaba River, Ford River, Garden Creek, Valentine Creek, No-See-Um Creek, Squaw Creek, Tacoosh River
- Mackinac County Black River, Carp River, Cut River, Millecoquin River, Nunns Creek, Paquin Creek
- Marquette County Dead River in Marquette
- O Menominee County Cedar River, Deer Creek, Menominee River,
- O Schoolcraft County Manistique River, Marblehead Creek, South Town Creek

LAKE MICHIGAN AREAS

- O Benzie County Frankfort Pier, mouth of Platte River
- O Berrien County St. Joseph River/north and south piers
- Emmet County Caro Lake River, along Wilderness Park Rd.
- O Leelanau County Shalda Creek
- Mason County Ludington Pier
- O Muskegon County Whitehall North Pier, Muskegon South Pier
- O Oceana County Pentwater North Pier
- Ottawa County Grand Haven / along the shore and off the piers
- O Van Buren County Deer Lick Creek / south of South Haven

LAKE HURON AREAS

- Alpena County Thunder Bay River in Alpena
- Alcona County Black River, Harrisville Harbor in Harrisville, Lake Huron Shoreline
- Arenac County Angalo's Creek, Au Gres River/Whitney Drain (Singing Bridge), Lake Huron shoreline, Schnitzalbank Creek
- O Cheboygan County Cheboygan River, in Cheboygan
- O Huron County Grindstone City Harbor, New River, Pigeon River, Pinnebog River
- O Iosco County Ausable River mouth in Oscoda, Tawas River in Tawas City.
- O Presque Isle County Ocqueoc River, downstream from US-23
- O Sanilac County Bridgehampton River at Forester, Lexington Harbor, Mill Creek at Forestville, Port Sanilac Harbor
- St. Clair County St. Clair River in Port Huron

Smelt Fishing Opportunities

Inland Lakes Hook & Line Fishing

County	Water	Smelt Abundance	Opportunity
Alger	Grand Sable Lk.	Present	Limited
	Mirror Lake	Present	///Limited
Alpena	Beaver Lake	Present	Limited
Antrim	Bellaire Lake	Present	Limited
Barry	Gull Lake	Scarce	Poor
Benzie	Lake Ann	Present	Limited
	Crystal Lake	Abundant	Good
Charlevoix	Lk. Charlevoix	Abundant	Good
	Thumb Lake	Abundant	Good
Cheboygan	Mullett Lake	Present	Limited
Crawford	Higgins Lake	Abundant	Good
Gogebic	Beatons Lake	Scarce	Poor
Grand Traverse	Green Lake	Abundant	Good
Iosco	Loon Lake	Present	Limited
Isabella	Littlefield Lake	Present	Limited
Kalamazoo	Gull Lake	Scarce	Poor
Keweenaw	Gratiot Lake	Abundant	Good
Leelanau	Cedar Lake	Present	Limited
	North Lk. Leelanau	Present	Limited
Montmorency	Clear Lake	Present	Limited
	Lk. Fifteen	Present	Limited
	McCormick Lk.	Present	Limited
Otsego	Heart Lake	Present	Limited
Schoolcraft	Clear Lake	Present	Limited
	Dodge Lake	Abundant	Good
	Island Lake	Abundant	Good